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Errata

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ERRATA

The article "A Mahābhārata Story from the Kumaon Hills" by John Leavitt, published in Volume VIII, Number 2, pp. 1-23, contains some errors in diacritics that affect the meaning of the text.

In footnote 1, page 1, the words Gaṛhvāl, Kumāñ, and Sīñh should have the diacritical marks as indicated here.

Elsewhere there is some confusion between names that are only differentiated by ending with either a long -ā (feminine form) or short -a (masculine form).

Page 2, paragraph 2. The first sentence should end "close to Hiḍimba's wood." The last two sentences of this paragraph should read, "an alarming and dreadful fight between Bhīma and Hiḍimba" and "Bhīma killed Hiḍimba".

Page 3, paragraph 3. The last sentence should read, "Both Bhīm and Hiḍamba [the child] went into Hiḍambā's house."

The author requests that the reader take pen and white-out in hand and make the corrections indicated.

The dissertation abstract on pp 34-35 of Volume VII, Number 1 should read as follows:

Whelpton, John.

Nepali Politics and the Rise of Jang Bahadur Rana, 1830-1857.

The thesis examines the political history of Nepal from 1830, covering the decline and fall of the Bhimsen Thapa, the factional struggles which ended with Jang Bhadur Kunwar (later Rana)'s emergence as premier in 1846, and Jang's final securing of his own position when he assumed the joint roles of prime minister and maharaja in 1857. The relationship between king, political elite (bharadari), army and peasantry is analyzed, with special prominence given to the religious aspects of Hindu kingship, and also the role of prominent Chettri families and of the Brahman Mishras, Pandes and Paudyals who provide the rajagurus (royal preceptors). Special attention is also paid to the role of the British Residency in internal politics and to rank-and-file protest in the army, which although largely manipulated by elite patrons showed signs of potential autonomy. Jang's assumption of power is discussed in detail, emphasizing the importance of his alliance with guru Vijay Raj Pande. The main features of the new regime are outlined, including the relationship between maharaja and monarch (maharajadhiraj), the composition of the new bharadaj and Jang's dependence on it and the army, changes to the administrative system, the significance of the Muluki Ain (Law Code) of 1854, land revenue policy and relations with the British. Jang's policies were partly the natural continuation of lines already emerging, but he nevertheless made significant changes leading to a more centralized administration, the growth of a sense of national identity, and the shift towards de facto private ownership of land which continued with the secular functions of the king transferred to the maharaja. Jang's regime was 'autocratic' but he acknowledged in principle an obligation to the governed, and had in practice to conciliate key sectors of the public, limitations which correspond to those recognized in classical Hindu political theory. Appendices give details of Jang's family history and translations of letters written by him from Paris in 1850.

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